

NICKEL PLATEARTS

Unplug & Create

Arts GUIDE

SUMMER ISSUE JUNE - AUGUST 2016

4TH ANNUAL

NICKEL PLATE ARTS Festival

1 Summer.

6 Towns.

A Whole Lotta Art!

PLUS:

Kids Classes
& Camps

3 Bicentennial
Exhibits

Rachael
O'Dell's
Classroots
Meet-Up

NICKELPLATEARTS.ORG

In Full Bloom

A WORD FROM Aili

NICKEL PLATE ARTS DIRECTOR



As I write this letter, it is a cold, dreary day in April — you'll probably remember it as one of those unseasonably chilly reminders of winter that included wind, sleet and thick gray clouds. On a day like this, it's hard to imagine the bright, hot days of summer full of amazing arts events that are covered in this issue.

We know that summer is a certainty, even when there's no tangible sign of its coming. Similarly, the peas I planted two weeks ago that still lay dormant in the cold wet mud of my garden are sure to germinate in the next few days and grow and blossom and then bear fruit in June. The seasons and the seeds we sow have more than just potential: They have a presence, an existence that transcends the here and now.

"I sincerely hope that you'll get out and enjoy the fruits of our labor — all of those arts seeds that have been sown in your own backyard!"



And so does Nickel Plate Arts. The past four years have been our spring — the time when we have sown all manner of metaphorical seeds, with the belief that the conditions were right for them to sprout and grow in the near future. We're starting to see the results of our efforts, like tender green shoots pushing their way toward the nurturing light of the sun!

This issue covers three months chockful of arts adventures, including our Nickel Plate Arts Festival, kicking off in June. This is our chance to shine a spotlight on each of the key arts resources in our communities. We've watched many arts opportunities evolve since our first weekend-long festival in 2012, and now the arts community has grown so very much that even an entire month isn't enough to cover it all.

We are quickly moving toward having an entire summer of art, with chances to shop, listen to live music, watch live theater and create art of all kinds virtually every day from June through August. We are delighted that our spotlight (as well as many other positive factors in our communities) has nurtured so much growth — peas aren't the only thing that will be bearing fruit in June!

St. Michael's Strawberry Festival is a great example. The event's expansion to a two-day festival and its collaboration with the Gathering of Plein Air Painters and Art Sale demonstrate not only growth in the size of the event but also an important evolution in the vision for the arts in general. We can use

our arts resources to elevate and strengthen other efforts. The arts can draw a crowd. The arts can make money. The arts can define who we are and what we value!

If you're reading this, it means that summer has, indeed, come and that these great arts adventures are just days away. I sincerely hope that you'll get out and enjoy the fruits of our labor — all of those arts seeds that have been sown in your own backyard!

And please, if you're not yet a paying member of Nickel Plate Arts, consider becoming one today? Your support nurtures us and keeps us growing.

Aili McGill

Aili McGill
Director
AMcGill@nickelplatearts.org

Join Nickel Plate Arts-

Visit NickelPlateArts.org and click "Membership" to see how you can join as an individual, artist, arts organization or business sponsor. Thank you!

In this ISSUE

JUNE – AUGUST 2016



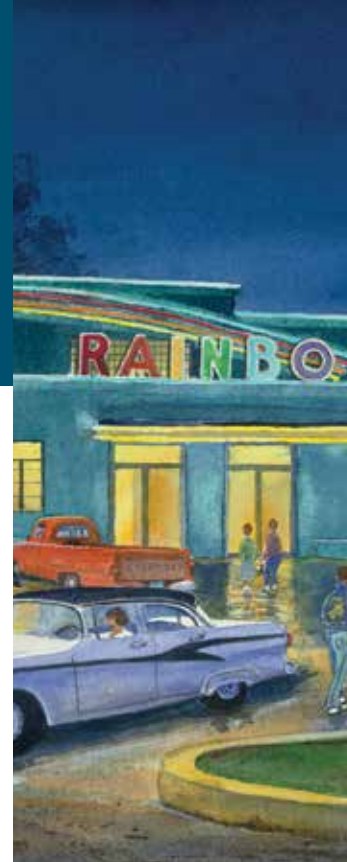
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GET SOCIAL WITH US!

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Featured Artists LESLEY ACKMAN



Seeing More Through Photography

Lesley Ackman studied music at Indiana University and had a career in finance and accounting, but she found her true passion in photography in 2008. At that time, she was traveling a lot and enjoyed taking photos, but wanted to improve her skills. She took some photography classes and joined the long-running Riviera Camera Club in Indianapolis, which changed her perspective on the world around her.

"This added a new dimension to my travels and gave me a new view to the places I visited," Ackman says. "I could see details in architecture that I had missed before, began to see how the light could affect the mood, and saw new patterns in nature that I had missed."

Ackman will be our featured Showcase Artist in June, exhibiting her photographs inside the Stephenson House on the Nickel Plate Arts campus June 1-30.

When asked about her favorite photography experience, Ackman cites a recent trip to Cuba where she got to spend a morning with Ramses Batista, a talented Cuban photographer. They photographed some of his favorite spots in Havana and then went to a magnificent, old mansion where two beautiful ballerinas from Cuba's International Ballet modeled for them.

"I've never worked with models, so this was a new experience. Using only natural window light and no tripods, this was somewhat challenging but the results were very rewarding," Ackman says. "Of course I shot the old cars and buildings, but it was the Cuban people who made this trip special."

Ironically, in her efforts to better photograph her travels, she also grew to see the beauty in her own backyard.

"Who knew that cornfields, old barns and even cemeteries could be so fascinating!" Ackman says. "While I still enjoy photographing my travels, I also enjoy driving around country roads to see what we can find."

View Ackman's photos and meet the photographer during an opening reception on Friday, June 17, 5-8 p.m.



Lisa Bell Jamison

Snap Chats That Last

Meet and join the Hamilton County Photography group

The Hamilton County Photography group meets monthly to share experiences, learn from each other and advance the art of photography. The open group includes amateur, professional, retired and beginning photographers.

Throughout the month of July, Nickel Plate Arts presents a group exhibit of their works in the Stephenson House gallery exhibit. Don't miss seeing portraits, landscapes, motorsports scenes and more from the following artists:

Jason Carroll | Sophie Doell
Peter Georges | Lisa Bell Jamison
Matt Leckrone | Paul Siktberg
Bill Wilson | Linda Wilson
Sally Meyer Wolf



Linda Wilson



Sally Meyer Wolf

Chris Le Sense founded the Hamilton County Photography group in 2009, and Jason Carroll now manages it. Anyone interested in the art of photography is welcome, and there is no fee to join.

Meetings take place the first Monday of each month, 6:30-8:30 p.m., at the Noblesville Library. Past guest speakers have presented on automotive photography, low-light photography, macro photography and underwater photography, to name a few topics. Members also bring in photos of their past year's work to share and discuss with the group.

The Hamilton County Photography group also tries to exhibit together at The Indiana State Fair and at places like Nickel Plate Arts. The group enjoys traveling, and several members lead photography trips from local areas to as far away as Cuba and France.



For more information, find them on Facebook or contact Jason Carroll at jasonc@square1photography.com.

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Featured Artists JIM ANDERSON

CALL of the Wild

Creatures great and small in August exhibit



him succeed since he is red-green-brown shade color-blind.

"God opened my mind to his creativity, and brought his art to me to capture in my camera," explains Anderson, who originally found a muse in the creek that flows beside his Southside home.

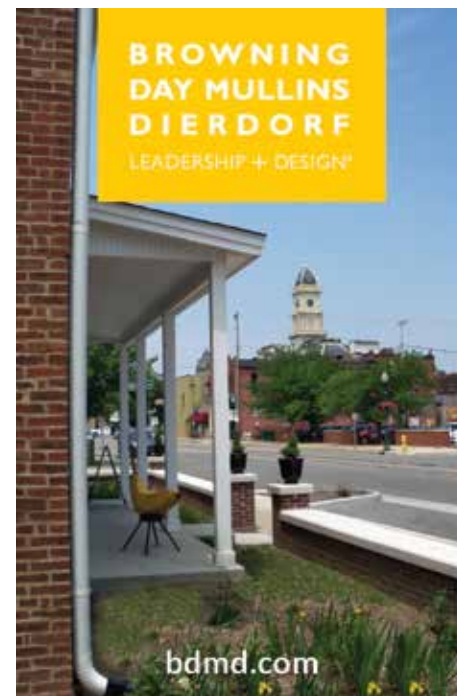
"Surprisingly, God is not finished with my education through these natural abstracts alone. He brings birds and animals with their own personalities and characteristics

to our home. Some are injured or tired and in need of food and rest."

The Andersons have created a sanctuary for these animals at their home and have witnessed new life and families born. Birds and animals return to the Anderson's safe haven year after year.

"We recognize their markings and unique colors. These treasures and visitors are what I'm sharing with you in this showcase," he says. You will likely see some of these precious animals and more during Anderson's exhibit at Nickel Plate Arts Aug. 1-30 in the Stephenson House.

Anderson is also a writer and is the co-author of the book "If Only," which is available for sale at Nickel Plate Arts. Jim's photos will be in the Indiana Photographic Society exhibit at Holliday Park in November and he will also have a booth at the Garfield Park Autumn Art Show, the weekend before Thanksgiving.



ART IN CITY HALL

INFiber exhibit

June 6 - July 30

FREE Art Exhibit
Presented by Fishers Arts Council

Monday-Friday
9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
One Municipal Drive, Fishers

For details, visit:
Facebook.com/FishersArt

Anderson shared his abstract photos of Buffalo Creek in the Stephenson House last September. **Revisit that exhibit here:** nickelplatearts.org/stories/call-of-the-creek.



Prismatic Faces by Jim Anderson

LEGAL MINDS

Artful Hearts

Arts Partners

John Brannon will be the first to tell you where his weaknesses lie.

"I'm an engineer and lawyer. Nothing I do screams 'artistic' because I'm really not, but I appreciate other people's talents and their art," he says. Brannon and his fellow attorneys at Brannon Sowers & Cracraft PC appreciate art so much that they have supported Nickel Plate Arts since 2014 as a Business Sponsor, focusing their dollars on our monthly First Friday events. Without their support, those events would not be as robust — live entertainment, refreshments, activities — as they are today.

Personally, Brannon enjoys First Fridays and seeing the new, different collections

presented each month. Brannon's son Adam purchased a photograph of art glass shot and then altered by artist Michael McKinley, and Brannon bought a giant pixelated image of Martin Luther King, Jr. in

what could be interpreted as a modern pointillism style.

Brannon also commissioned his long-time friend and illustrator Stuart Sayger to create a painting of The Creeper, an obscure DC Comics hero. Helping artists

like Sayger protect their rights is how Brannon's love of the arts edges over into more practical matters.

The firm's involvement with Nickel Plate Arts can be measured in more than dollars and cents. Patricia A. Hughel, an attorney at Brannon Sowers & Cracraft whose practice areas include trademark, copyright and entertainment law, led a past class for artists at Nickel Plate Arts focused on copyright.

"It's important for artists because they get ripped off all the time. It's easy to copy an artist's work," Brannon says. The Brannon Sowers & Cracraft team assists many artists in developing enforceable copyright standards to help prevent dishonest people from stealing and profiting from the rightful owner's works. With the proliferation of art on the Internet, it is easier than ever to download an image, print it on posters or T-shirts, and then sell it.

Like the law firm, Nickel Plate Arts serves artists in a supporting role as well, Brannon says.

"It is providing a very critical service to the community and it's local. I live in Noblesville and Aili [McGill] makes it easy to want to support her and help out the organization. They're just so darned likable," Brannon says.



John Brannon and his son, Adam, attend the 2015 Comic Book Holiday Party



Sojna

Classes & Commissions

Sojna Widmer FINE ART

The Red Thread and the Spirit, 2016

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2016 NICKEL PLATE ARTS Festival

Art-centric summer can last all year

The Nickel Plate Arts Festival is not a one-day event. Is it not about just fine art, just music or just growing community. It is not about one venue, one organization or one town. The Nickel Plate Arts Festival is all of these things and more.

Born in 2012 out of a desire to draw together existing arts events and resources across the area we call the Nickel Plate Region, the Nickel Plate Arts Festival has grown — and continues to evolve — to celebrate, collaborate and nurture the arts.

"Very quickly, it became clear that our efforts had yielded so much more than we could handle in one day," says Aili McGill, Nickel Plate Arts Director. In 2013, the festival expanded to highlight a particular community during each weekend of June, but more opportunities and stronger collaborative partnerships drove the festival's boundaries further.

This year, the Nickel Plate Arts Festival kicks off in June (see "Festival Kickoff: Mountain of Clay Anniversary") and highlights communities and events that stretch well into July. McGill sees the future of the festival and Nickel Plate Arts' role in it as being an arts resource for anyone seeking to experience

Borrowing a page from arts tourism success stories such as ArtPrize in Grand Rapids, Nickel Plate Arts is working to become a robust hub of community activities including the Boys & Girls Club Bed Race, HeART of Tipton, Conner Prairie Curiosity Fair, Old Mill Festival and more. The festival initiative is partly about introducing people to local artists and giving artists opportunities to sell their work.

The partnerships and energy that an event can create doesn't end once it's over. The HeART of Tipton is one such success story. Now in its third year, this festival's offerings are expanding and discussions about developing a Tipton arts council are taking place, which would benefit the community year round.

In 2016, the Nickel Plate Arts Festival continues to grow organically through grassroots efforts and seeking input.

the arts in eastern Hamilton County and southern Tipton County.

"This year is more of a full-on celebration, trying to pick up events that drive the most engagement with the arts. We are getting to a point where we are helping organize, promote and direct people to arts opportunities throughout the entire summer," McGill says.

"There have been so many times in the past when the connections between the arts and people have been broken, and we're trying to bridge those gaps whenever possible,"
- Aili McGill

"It's an opportunity to see what citizens love about art, and then developing ways to help them connect with art," McGill says. "One of the things that Nickel Plate Arts was founded for was to address the challenge arts organizations face when they work in silos, running up against each other for resources and sponsorship dollars instead of seeking chances to leverage resources and increase participation together."

Under the Nickel Plate Arts Festival model, multiple events taking place at the same time increases the chances for crossover among audiences to build attendance.

"There have been so many times in the past when the connections between the arts and people have been broken, and we're trying to bridge those gaps whenever possible," McGill says.



NICKEL PLATE ARTS Events Guide

Stop by Nickel Plate Arts to get your copy of the Nickel Plate Arts Festival Events Guide or download it at nickelplatearts.org. Inside, you'll find a whole lotta arts events to make your summer amazing!

Festival Kickoff:

Mountain of Clay Anniversary
June 4, 12-5 p.m.,
Noblesville Library



Join us to celebrate the launch of the 2016 Nickel Plate Arts Festival with the one-year anniversary of Mountain of Clay, an outdoor pottery studio and community art project presented by Nickel Plate Arts and executed by artists Kandi and William Jamieson (former owners of Arthouse).

The 2015 Mountain of Clay featured 1,000 pounds of clay, which community members shaped into pots and vessels. William Jamieson sculpted these into a single public artwork entitled "Nonument." Now housed in the Noblesville Library, the sculpture is loosely based off the historic Noblesville Granary that stored corn and other seeds and grains for many years.

On June 4, we invite you to bring "seeds" from your community, which will be housed in the Nonument sculpture. These "seeds" will represent the past, present and future of our community and act as a time capsule to commemorate the state's Bicentennial. Visitors can create their own "seeds" at a craft station and enjoy other art activities, including a large-scale collaborative painting project called "Trails" guided by local artist Doug Arnholter.

"Trails" is a community-created canvas celebrating the layers and vibrancy of the people and community along the 30-mile historic Nickel Plate Railroad in Fishers, Noblesville, Cicero, Arcadia, Atlanta and Tipton. Enjoy live music from the Emily Ann Thompson Band and her fiddle students, and much, much more!



Feature 2016 NICKEL PLATE ARTS Festival

Events!

Meyer Najem Sculpture



Dedication ceremony:
Friday, June 3, 3:30 p.m.
"Siege the Day" 101:
Saturday, June 4, 9 a.m.-12 p.m.
Fishers construction company Meyer Najem will unveil its long-awaited sculpture by artist Kevin Huff. "Siege the Day" is approximately 13 feet tall and melds both the organic shapes and industrial feel that company owner Anthony Najem sought.

Attend the dedication ceremony at 3:30 pm on June 3, or meet Nickel Plate Arts staff at the sculpture on June 4, 9 a.m.-12 p.m., to learn about how the sculpture was made, and to try sculpture projects of your own!

CONNER PRAIRIE

Curiosity Fair



June 11-12, 10 a.m.- 5 p.m.

Conner Prairie Interactive History Park, Fishers

Celebrate inquisitive spirits during this festival of wonder and exploration! Kids (and kids at heart) are invited to play, create and investigate the mysteries of the world around them. Through a series of interactive exhibits, soaring demonstrations and hands-on experiments, you'll be encouraged to look at your surroundings differently and ask questions, like ... how do HAM radios work? What gases go BOOM? How can dogs catch Frisbees?

More info: ConnerPrairie.org



Saturday, June 4, 8 a.m.-1 p.m.

Summer is the perfect time to Paint A Plow! Add your artistic touch to two Fishers snowplow blades and you might see your handiwork come winter. The plows will be located behind Fishers City Hall during the Farmers Market and Strawberry Festival. A local artist will be on hand to assist children, but adults are welcome to paint a plow, too.



Deliberate Media in downtown Noblesville will present its feature-length documentary through Nickel Plate Arts as part of a series of six screenings throughout the Central Indiana area. "Food First" looks at how growing quality food, supporting local, and increasing access and education are impacting Indianapolis. A "Community Conversation" discussion will follow the 70-minute film, including a panel of local food experts from Hamilton County and audience participation. **Please visit DeliberateMediaLLC.com/Food-First for more information and additional screening locations.**



Feature



Chalk Art Festival

Saturday, June 18, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
Hamilton Town Center

Professional and amateur artists line the village streets of Hamilton Town Center with works of art drawn with chalk. Guests to the Chalk Art Festival will enjoy free kids' activities including bounce houses, face painting and balloon artists. Sun King Brewery and Harmony Winery will also be onsite, as well as vendor booths and players from the Indiana Pacers. Event attendees may vote for their favorite works of art, and the winners of Chalk Art will receive prizes.



Saturday, June 25, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
Downtown Tipton

The third annual HeART of Tipton festival will showcase local artists' artwork on display and for sale. Enjoy a hands-on program on mosaic art (see example above) presented by Tipton native and artist Jeff Stapleton.

New this year will be "Authorama" (10 a.m.-3 p.m.), an author fair celebrating and showcasing Central Indiana authors including Tipton natives Kurt Meyer and Janis Thornton, and Indiana Historian Ray Boomhower, ghost hunter Nichole Kobrowski.

The Tipton Library will have events for families, including face painting, Popsicle stick art, photo contest, sidewalk chalk, Quilter's Roundtable demo and sale, and a self-guided tour of artwork from Brown County Art Colony artists. Tipton Community Theatre will provide live entertainment. Tipton Farmer & Artisan Market offers food a half-block away.

2016 Nickel Plate Arts Festival Sponsor:



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DeliberateMediaLLC.com

Shortcake & ART

in the Great Outdoors

Growing community and building connections around the arts can take many forms. Consider a bowl of strawberry shortcake and its potential to connect people, lift hearts and spread a message of love.

St. Michael's Strawberry Festival

Each year, volunteers from St. Michael's Episcopal Church set up shop on the Noblesville Courthouse Square to assemble and serve about 2,500 strawberry shortcakes to passersby and supporters.

This year marks the **39th Annual Strawberry Festival**. In the past, the strawberry feast has been just one day. This year, the festival expands to Friday and Saturday, June 17 and 18.

And here's where the arts part comes in. Plans for the money raised on Friday had been to help pay for a 20-year-old organ the church purchased earlier this year. The electric organ's \$10,000 price tag was about half of what a new instrument might cost. Through music, the church is helping to support and grow its community. (The good news is that enough money was

raised during a church auction in April to pay off the organ.) On June 18, funds will go to outreach projects and organizations such as the Good Samaritan Network.

Also this year, St. Michael's showed interest in integrating an arts element into its Strawberry Festival. As the arts hub in this region, Nickel Plate Arts started a conversation about how the 8th Annual Gathering of Plein Air Painters and St. Michael's could collaborate.

8th Annual Gathering of Plein Air Painters

To take advantage of what festival organizers say is always the most beautiful weekend of the summer, the Gathering of Plein Air Painters sponsors, Hamilton County Artists' Association and Nickel

Plate Arts, agreed that June 16-18 would be the best for their event as well. The hope is that the increased activity and traffic will benefit both events and give the public more reasons to enjoy a visit to downtown Noblesville over the weekend.

During this **8th Annual Gathering of Plein Air Painters** weekend, many studio-bound artists will take to the streets, roads and fields to practice their hand at plein-air painting in the great outdoors. Selected artists in this competition will paint a variety of scenes throughout downtown Noblesville, from perches around the downtown square to natural habitats near the White River and Forest Park.

Like the bowl of strawberry shortcake can help fill a space with music, a single painting can connect you to the arts. The public is invited to commission artists to paint a particular subject. Consider how a painting of your home, favorite local landscape or historic storefront can link you to the arts. There are also opportunities for you to get first dibs on art created during the Gathering of Plein Air Painters and to participate as an artist.

Make a connection to the arts — whether it's through a sweet dessert or an inspiring painting. June 16-18 is the week to do it!

Mark Your Calendar!

38th St. Michael's Strawberry Festival
June 17, 11 a.m.-3 p.m.
June 18, 11 a.m.-7 p.m.

Noblesville Courthouse Square
Get your strawberry shortcakes with all the fixins! Tickets are \$7 on festival day, \$5 presale | More info:
StMichaelsEpiscopalChurch.org

8th Annual Gathering of Plein Air Painters
June 16-18

Noblesville Courthouse Square and beyond
Prior to event: Get in touch with Nickel Plate Arts to commission a work or become a "Patron." As a "Patron," your \$300 gets you first dibs on artwork.
June 16 & 17: Look for artists stationed all around Noblesville and the surrounding area.
June 18: Painting continues through 11 a.m. "Patron" purchasers choose their painting, 12-2 p.m. Public can view and purchase paintings, 2-6 p.m.
More info: NickelPlateArts.org



Aug. 6 assembly of fine artists rounds out summer

Artists from all over Indiana and beyond are gearing for the **12th Annual NCAC Noblesville Art Fair on the Square**, Saturday, Aug. 6, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. This one-day fine art fair is set against the backdrop of the beautiful historic Hamilton County

Courthouse with its lovely shade trees and park benches.

"Last year about 50 artists displayed their original fine art pieces in a wide variety of mediums," says Lesley Haflich, chairman of this year's Art Fair on the Square. Haflich is also a Nickel Plate Arts Studio Artist and Hamilton County Artists' Association member. "Besides handmade jewelry, several ceramics booths, paintings done in a variety of styles, glassworks, woodworking, photography and textile art filled the town square."

Several popular repeat artists are from here in Noblesville, including Roseanne Crowell

(pastels) and Rodney Reveal (oil paintings and watercolors). The fair also attracts artists from afar such as Steven Shaikh, a silver and gemstone jeweler from Fort Wayne, and Anne Parks, a nature pastel painter from Lafayette.

A popular repeat vendor is the Nickel Plate Boys booth, a collaboration of John Bundy's duck decoys, Greg Adams' willow works, Bruce Neckar's wildlife drawings and John Reynolds' oils.

"We also plan to have face painting, musical performances and food vendors to round out the fair-going experience,"

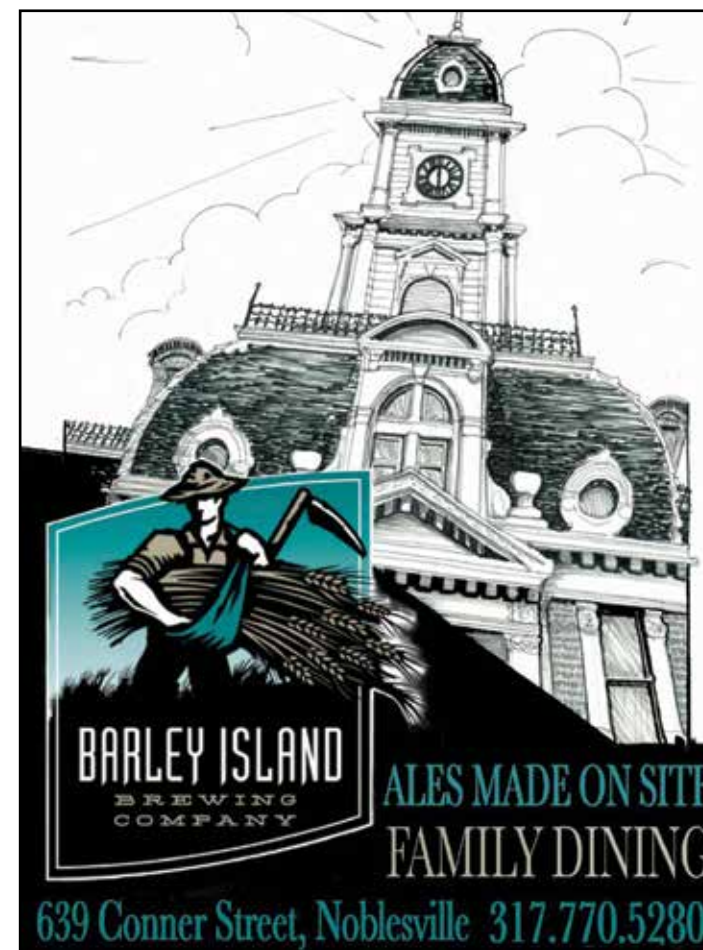
—Lesley Haflich, Chairman, Art Fair on the Square

In collaboration with Nickel Plate Arts, the Hamilton County Artists' Association sponsors the fair, and its members will be displaying their art on the northwest corner of the square.

Program Coordinator at Nickel Plate Arts Kavita Singh — "Miss K" to her young students — will lead kids of all ages in hands-on activities and crafts. Expect to make art related to our upcoming programming and classes, including art centered around comic book illustration, Day of Dead and Indiana's Bicentennial.

"We also plan to have face painting, musical performances and food vendors to round out the fair-going experience," Haflich says. "Last year, for the first time, we had a Tasters' Garden in the alley next to Matteo's, with samplings of a variety of wines and artisan foods. The Tasters' Garden is back this year, and we hope to build on it to make it even better."

Noblesville Cultural Arts Commission founded Art Fair on the Square in 2004, and it continues to bring amazing art and culture to our region.



Changing Face of HAMILTON COUNTY

By David Heighway, Hamilton County Historian

Pictured: John and Nancy Roberts 50th wedding anniversary in 1923 at Roberts Settlement: John is a son of Elijah Roberts, one of the first three men to acquire land at Roberts Settlement. John and Nancy are seated and surrounded by their children and spouses and grandchildren.

Top Right: Workers at a glass factory in Arcadia represent the influx of people, including many immigrants from southern and eastern Europe, to this area due to the Natural Gas Boom in 1887.

Above: Public School at Roberts Settlement (1913): This school primarily served children at Roberts Settlement, however, several children of white families in the neighborhood also attended the school.

Although it might not always seem so, the diversity of a place can shift quickly. Since the early 1800s, industry, economic upturns and downturns, war, transportation, hate and also acceptance have shaped the face of Hamilton County.

The county was actually very diverse in the pioneer era. When the first big wave of migration happened in the 1830s, many different groups came in. There

were Delaware Indians, such as the Ketchem and Brouillette families, who stayed after the rest of their tribe left in 1820. Quakers and African-Americans from

North Carolina traveled north, escaping the repressive atmosphere that existed after the 1831 Nat Turner rebellion, and established communities such as Westfield and Roberts Settlement.

Irish Catholics came to the Indianapolis area to dig the Central Canal and stayed after it went bankrupt in 1837, eventually establishing the Mullen Settlement. German Catholic immigrants started the Buscher Settlement, and the two groups would establish separate churches that would eventually join and become Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Cicero.

The Quaker communities in Westfield, Carmel and other towns on the west side of Hamilton County were heavily involved in the Underground Railroad, which brought more African-Americans to the area. When the railroad arrived in 1851, a small Jewish population took up residence, most notably the Levinson family. Norman Levinson, a member of this family and a Noblesville native, became the famous designer Norman Norell. After the Civil War, Hispanic and Asian people began to appear in the records. In the Oct. 30, 1896, edition of the Indianapolis Journal appears the

story of a man named Tie Loy, who ran a laundry in Noblesville for several years and did things such as participating in a political rally for Charles W. Fairbanks in 1896 by providing metal for making campaign souvenirs.

The Natural Gas Boom in 1887 caused large changes in demographics. Immigrants from southern and eastern Europe came to work in the glass factories in Cicero, Arcadia and Sheridan. Unfortunately, the failure of the boom two decades later caused people to look for scapegoats and led to a rise in popularity for the Ku Klux Klan. The group at this time proclaimed itself as largely anti-immigrant and anti-Catholic, although their usual bigotry was still in place. Race relations in Hamilton County were better in 1880 than they were in 1920.

In 1925, D. C. Stephenson, the Grand Dragon of the Indiana Klan and one of the most powerful people in the Midwest, was tried and convicted of rape and murder in a Hamilton County courtroom. While this altered the attitude toward the KKK, much of the prejudice just became less overt. There were issues that didn't change until after World War II, when the African-American population of the county began to push for an end to segregation at places like the Forest Park Pool and restaurants and movie theaters. The election of Murphy White, an African-American, to the Noblesville City Council in 1968 signaled a change in the community's attitude. The suburban boom has made the county much more diverse. Just take a look around.

Let's Get NOSTALGIC

Following a series of introspective exhibits, Nickel Plate Arts will lighten the mood in August with its *Nostalgia* exhibit. Take a trip back in time through images of idyllic days gone by and references to our history. Nostalgia will run Aug. 5-27 and most works will be for sale to the public. You are invited to Nickel Plate Arts for an exhibit opening reception on **Friday, Aug. 5, 6-9 p.m.** (No registration is required.) Let's get nostalgic, as Rodney Reveal takes us back in time and Bundy Ducks reflects our Native American history.

RODNEY REVEAL

J. Rodney Reveal was born and raised in Noblesville. His series of "hometown" paintings (jrodneyreveal.com) capture the nostalgic feeling of our August exhibit.

With regional and national awards among his accolades, we are proud to call Reveal a Nickel Plate Arts Studio Artist. Upon retirement from being a home builder/designer and a firefighter, Rodney has dedicated more time to his watercolor and oil paintings of landscapes, structural details and nature. His work is represented in public and private collections throughout the United States, Europe, and Brazil.

"Unleaded" captures an old gas station that had been on State Road 52 in Marion County, east of I-465.



In **"ABC Drive In,"** you can see what used to be on the location of the current Sunbelt Rentals on Cumberland Road in Noblesville.



"Rainbo" captures another drive-in of days gone by, this one on Conner Street where the CVS near Riverview Hospital now stands. **Prints by Reveal available for sale.**

Exhibits



"In creating these carvings, we attempt to show off the natural beauty of the wood by enhancing it with colored stains, which work with the growth rings, knots and unique patterns of each piece of wood, creating a one of a kind piece of art," John Bundy says.

BUNDY DUCKS

For 40 years, the John Bundy family of Bundy Ducks (bundyducks.com) has been creating decoy carvings as works of art and sending them all over the world. While Native Americans were the first to use a decoy for the purpose of luring a game bird from the sky, Bundy Ducks' decoys have been produced for a different type of hunter, and have many different uses.

The Bundys "carve off everything that is not a duck" from a full section of a log so they can "see the duck" while it's still inside the log and properly align the grain pattern.

They have been gifts and awards, raised money for wildlife, and have been presented as international gifts to showcase the state of Indiana and to bring new business to this state. One was even used to raise money to help pay for a million fish that were stocked into the White River to undo the disaster created by the chemical release that destroyed the fish for 60 miles.

BICENTENNIAL EXHIBITS

In the Name of Progress Exhibit

Change can be good, hard, fraught with uncertainty or filled with hope. During the In the Name of Progress exhibit, we are celebrating the evolving landscape, architecture, values and potential throughout the Nickel Plate Arts region — through art. Stop by the Judge Stone House gallery and see artwork that focuses on the changes Indiana has experienced in the last 200 years.

See the **In the Name of Progress** exhibit **June 3-25, 2016.** (Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays from Noon to 5 p.m., and Saturdays from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.) Most works will be for sale to the public. Join us for the opening reception on Friday, June 3 from 6-9 p.m.

Melting Pot Exhibit

Who and what from Indiana's past have shaped how we view the world, raise our children and treat others, and how will we as a society shape Indiana culture in the future? During the Melting Pot exhibit, we will attempt to answer these questions and others related to Indiana's evolving cultural heritage through visual and sculptural media.

See the **Melting Pot** exhibit **July 1-30, 2016** (Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from Noon-5 p.m., and Saturdays from 10 a.m.-5 p.m.). Most works will be for sale to the public. Join us for an opening reception on Friday, July 1, 6-9 p.m.

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"What if all of the creative-minded folks in Noblesville met up?"

-Rachael O'Dell

CRAVING Creativity

The birth of the Noblesville Maker Meet-Up

By Rachael O'Dell



Top Photo: Michael Bauman (from left), Corey Cole, Eric O'Dell, Jamie Hahn and Kate Foster celebrate the opening of O'Dell's space at Nickel Plate Arts. O'Dell is writer Rachael O'Dell's husband.

Makers and artists, including Debby Bauman (pictured), meet regularly to talk shop and share ideas during a Noblesville Maker Meet-Up event.

Growing up in Fortville, I remember feeling like I had to go into the city to do anything worth doing. Back then, we literally had to drive at least 20 minutes in any direction to get to a good-sized department store, grocery, movie theater or restaurant.

Whenever I had a birthday or free time, my parents would ask, "Rachael, what would you like to do to celebrate?" and my answer, every time, involved going to Broad Ripple or Downtown Indianapolis or any of the other larger city areas to visit the cool, quirky shops and restaurants. Each time I visited these places, I longed to live in a place that had more accessible culture.

Fast-forward a few years ... it's 2013 and my husband Eric and I have just moved back to Indiana from Washington, DC, where he went to school. It was a big adjustment — no more public transport, no more free museums, no more bustling city life. I was always an Indiana girl at heart, and was happy to return to my roots, so I took it in stride.

Much to our delight, Indiana had grown, with exciting new restaurants and bars, locally owned businesses, community events, civic engagements, and — most exciting to these out-of-practice artists — a vibrant, growing arts scene. We unpacked and began to settle down in Noblesville (Eric's hometown), exploring our new/old stomping grounds and dreaming of involving ourselves in these local art communities. After a chain of events, I left my comfortable software job and was offered a position in a creative environment, something I'd dreamt of for a very long time.

I took a position in a retail store on Mass Ave in downtown Indy, managing its social media, workshops and events, and a funny thing happened. I began to notice that a good amount of the artists and makers I was working with were from Noblesville. In my head, I wondered if I would recognize any of these creative folks on the street on my way to Noble Coffee & Tea or while getting breakfast at Rosie's. I thought, "Wouldn't it be great if I didn't have to drive 45 minutes into Indianapolis to discover these local artists?"

Fast-forward again to the summer of 2015. Debby, one of my many talented artist friends, had decided to quit her teaching job to pursue her dream of opening a pottery studio. Things were looking up — she had been gifted pottery wheels, clay, even a kiln! That momentum slowed down when she realized that she didn't have the appropriate power source to run that kiln. She searched for places to rent, asked around, even researched how to modify the kiln to get it working appropriately, all with no luck. A relentless networker, I thought to myself, "There has to be a way ... we just haven't come across the person with the answer yet." I was reminded of all the Noblesville artists I'd discovered in my new job, and I had a thought:

"What if all of the creative-minded folks in Noblesville met up?"

I thought, surely, there's strength in numbers. Surely, there are local people with an experience similar to Debby's who could offer helpful advice and help her realize her dream. I knew Noblesville had a few established arts communities, but I wasn't quite sure how to navigate them. There had to be an easier way to meet like-minded creative locals.

Thus, the Noblesville Maker Meet-Up was born.

Our first meet-up was last November, and we've been meeting once a month ever since, one Tuesday a month. We have neither monthly dues nor official membership, just a come-and-go-as-you-please atmosphere, meeting in shops and local businesses all over the square downtown, with makers and artists from all backgrounds. We have a core group of people who attend nearly every meeting, and it's always fun when new makers join the group.

Our last meeting was my bread and butter, and my hope for all of our future

meet-ups: artists collaborating, trading ideas, sharing expertise, giving unwanted materials to fellow makers to use in new projects, etc. Not only are we meeting each other and learning from one another, but we're also supporting each other, investing in and bringing more visibility to Noblesville's own already-robust arts community.

Looking for a custom-made leather piece? I know just the guy. Looking to host a fun craft night event? I know the ladies to call. How about a Friday evening of drinks, food and art — maybe even a live performance? It's within walking distance of the square — no drive required.

i If you're a maker or artist and you'd like to connect with us (or if you have a space where Debby can plug in her 3-phase kiln ...), check out our Facebook page ([facebook.com/groups/NoMaMeetup](https://www.facebook.com/groups/NoMaMeetup)) or visit us on Instagram (@noblesvillemakers).



NoMa regulars Jamie Hahn (from left), Kate Foster, Eric O'Dell and Debby Bauman sport their holiday finery in 2015.

Kids Programs

Adventures in ART



Upcoming arts opportunities for kids!

Kids classes, camps and other programming at Nickel Plate Arts are true adventures. We'd love to see your young artists take a study break and get their creative juices flowing. Join us!

FREE Visual Arts Camp July 19-22, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. (1-hr sessions organized by age groups)

Let your kids get their hands dirty and their heads thinking creatively over summer break! Nickel Plate Arts is partnering with the Noblesville Township Trustee Office to offer a weeklong adventure into the visual arts. Campers will get a hands-on exploration of various artistic mediums with projects changing daily. Dabble in 3D and 2D art-making processes including sculpture, painting, mixed-media and more! Beat the heat with cool art projects that you create and take home. Each camp day offers a one-hour session tailored for different age groups. All materials and guided instruction provided. Limit of 20 campers per session. Sign-up for this free camp today!

Age Range: 4-15
Camp Schedule (projects change daily):
10-11 a.m.: Mini Artists (ages 4-6)
12-1 p.m.: Little Artists (ages 7-9)
2-3 p.m.: Young Artists (ages 10-12)
4-5 p.m.: Teen Artists (ages 13-15)
Location: Noblesville Township Community Center
Price: FREE! Max 20 students per session.
Details & Register: Visit nickelplatearts.org

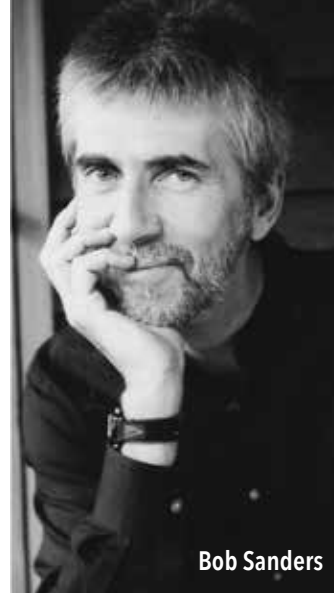
This camp
will fill
up fast!
Register
Now!



Summer Performing Arts Camp July 25-29, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Give your young performer the venue and encouragement to take the stage! Nickel Plate Arts, in collaboration with Storytelling Arts of Indiana and Noblesville Parks and Recreation, presents its 2016 Summer Performing Arts Camp July 25-29. During each one-week session, campers will take part in creative, engaging projects to explore:

- Improvisation
- Theater
- Music
- Storytelling
- More!



Bob Sanders

Nickel Plate Arts is working with local musicians, storytellers and other partners to develop a sampling of performing arts topics with ties to the visual arts, too! In addition to our own "Miss K" (Kavita Singh), two of our instructors are Bob Sanders of Storytelling Arts and artist/musician Janet Gilray.

Sanders will instruct campers on how to "tell a lie" (tall tales) using technique, story development and originality right in time for the Annual Liar's Contest at the Indiana State Fair. Sanders, an Indianapolis native, has always had a love for storytelling and how it

creates bridges to other cultures, doors to the past, and tools for understanding and relaying deeper ideas hidden in narratives. He will lead campers as they develop their own tall tales, colorful characters and unique settings, and spin their tales into "tall" versions.

Gilray will lead campers through a music lesson including the history of music, ranging from antique songs to what we hear today, and connecting kids to popular Indiana songs in time for the Bicentennial! Campers will discover how music and song-writing creates stories and memories, linking back to the stories they are developing with Sanders as part of the storytelling component. Kids will have the opportunity to sample a variety of instruments in Gilray's "instrument petting zoo" including guitars, fiddles, dulcimers and more!

Camp will be held at the Noblesville Recreation Annex at Ivy Tech Community College in partnership with Noblesville Parks & Recreation.



Janet Gilray



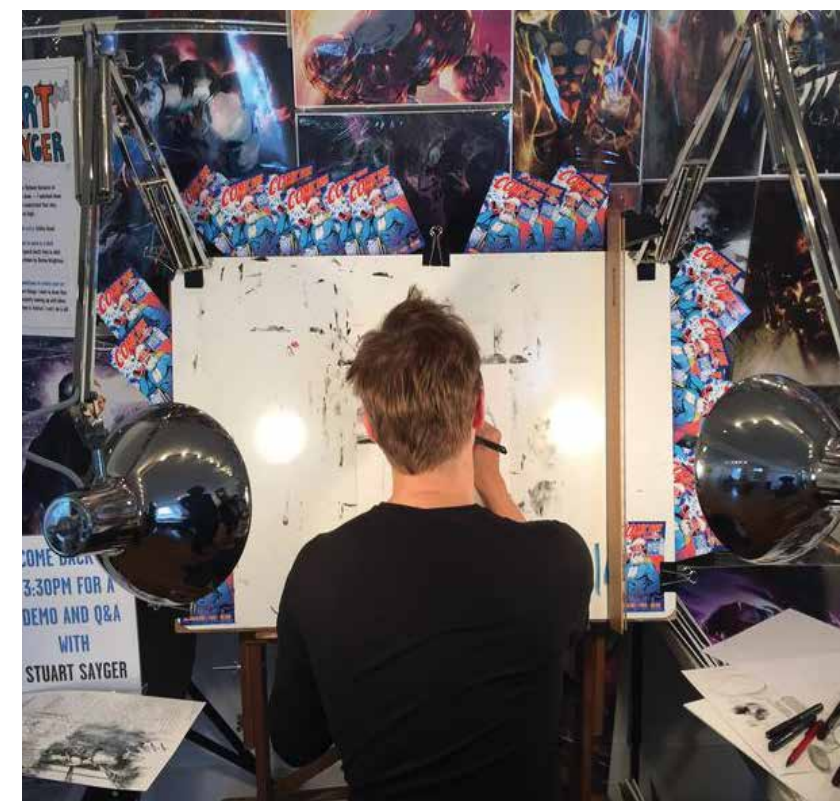
Age Range: 8-12
Location: Recreation Annex at Ivy Tech Community College of Indiana, 300 North 17th St., Noblesville
Price: \$195/camper for Noblesville residents; \$225/camper for non-residents. Campers must bring their own sack lunches.
Details & Register: Visit nickelplatearts.org/classes

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Comic Art Creatives Class Aug. 23-Sept. 27 (6 classes)

Who are the illustrators behind your favorite comic books? You are. During Comic Art Creatives, students will explore drawing, animation and illustration techniques in different mediums and styles to hone skills and uncover their signature style. They will learn how to create a storyboard, learn the basics of layout, developing characters, and finish with a completed comic all their own.

Age Range: 8-12
Days, Times: Tuesdays, 5-6:30 p.m.
Location: Recreation Annex at Ivy Tech Community College of Indiana, 300 North 17th St., Noblesville
Price: \$95/student for Noblesville residents; \$109/student for non-residents.
Details & Register: Visit nickelplatearts.org/classes

Mini Events Guide - June-August 2016

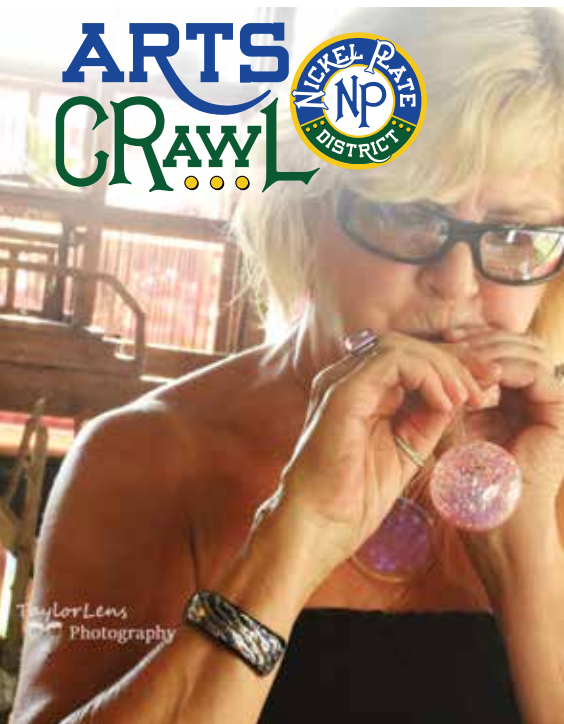


Looking for events from your favorite Nickel Plate Arts Partners?



Find them in the Festival Events Guide!

For the complete June-August Events Guide, stop by Nickel Plate Arts to get your copy or download it at NickelPlateArts.org. Inside, you'll find a whole lotta arts events to make your summer amazing!



First Fridays at Nickel Plate Arts Monthly, 6-9 p.m. Free admission!

Enjoy activities and entertainment, beer and wine available (for purchase)

FRIDAY, JUNE 3

June's First Friday is the opening reception for the exhibit In the Name of Progress. It also marks the beginning of our month-long Nickel Plate Arts Festival, which is cause for celebration! Come out and participate in a large-scale collaborative painting project called "Trails" guided by local artist Doug Arnholter. "Trails" is a community-created canvas celebrating the layers and vibrancy of the people and community along the 30-mile historic Nickel Plate Railroad in Fishers, Noblesville, Cicero, Arcadia, Atlanta and Tipton. Jam out to live music from popular local band, Noble Roots. Beer and wine offer a chance to unwind on a summer night.

Arts Crawl

July 15

Last year, more than 45 artists and performers paired up with Fishers businesses so visitors could explore and shop in downtown Fishers during Arts Crawl. It's back — only bigger and better!

The Fishers Arts Council and Nickel Plate Business Council are teaming again to host Arts Crawl on Friday, July 15, 6-9 p.m. Spend the evening in the Nickel Plate District enjoying local and regional

FRIDAY, JULY 1

Don't melt in the summer heat! Cool off at our July First Friday, the opening reception for Melting Pot, an exhibit exploring Indiana's evolving cultural heritage. Dance to live music provided by local band Indien, "Indiana's only rockabilly swing punk pop rock band." Participate in a hands-on activity inspired by our exhibit, enjoy refreshments, beer and wine, and see what our Studio Artists have been up to.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 5

Take a stroll back in time during our August First Friday, the opening reception for Nostalgia, featuring local artwork that depicts scenes from the past. Mingle with local artists, visit our artist studios, participate in a hands-on activity inspired by the exhibit and enjoy beer, wine and snacks. Timeless live music will round out the night and leave you in a nostalgic and artsy mood for the rest of the evening.

talent before the AMP After Dark concert featuring the soulful, funky Jennie DeVoe.

The self-guided art tour begins at 6 p.m. and includes stops at roughly 25 businesses throughout the Nickel Plate District. Download the new Nickel Plate District Fishers app (available on Apple and Android devices) for continued details and reminders about the Arts Crawl.

More info: fishers.in.us



Noblesville Street Dance July 9, 4-11 p.m.

Get your boogie — and art — on! The Noblesville Street Dance is downtown's biggest event of the year and Nickel Plate Arts is pumped to be a part of it.. This year

marks the 25th year of this free, family-friendly event held on the Noblesville Courthouse Square.

During last year's dance, our community mural project was a huge success. Continuing with the tradition, Nickel Plate Arts will feature another collaborative project inspired by Indiana's 200th Birthday! Celebrate the Bicentennial by getting your art on and contributing to an Indiana-themed mural that reflects community members like you!

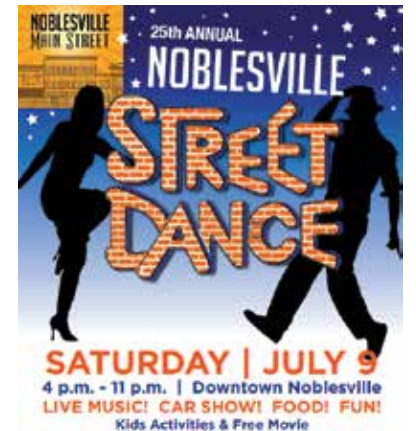
At 4 p.m., the dancing begins, and a live band takes the stage at 7:30 p.m. to perform until the end of the event, playing dance hits from the 70s to today's No. 1 hits.

The popular Kid's Zone runs 4-8:30 p.m. Free activities include carnival games, a video game truck, rock climbing wall, Touch-a-Truck, airbrush tattoos, balloon artists, family-friendly vendors and an ice cream eating contest. Wafford Theater is presenting a free kid-friendly movie at dusk on the lawn behind the Judicial

Center. Bring your blankets or chairs and enjoy the entertainment!

For adults, the Street Dance will feature a beer garden, business showcase and a Classic Car Show that will shine the spotlight on vintage autos from around Central Indiana. Come and sample great food and beverages prepared by local Noblesville restaurants. Or, kick back, relax and watch the show while dining at your favorite downtown restaurant.

More info: noblesvillemainstreet.org



Mini Events Guide - June-August 2016



Nickel Plate Region Studio Tour: July 23

Last August, Nickel Plate Arts Director Aili McGill was chatting with studio potter Nick Roudebush inside his booth during Art Fair on the Square in Noblesville about how things were going.

Roudebush's business appeared to be booming, and he had recently completed building his own timber frame pottery studio and kiln on his property in Perkinsville. Roudebush asked McGill if

anyone was thinking about coordinating a tour of studio spaces throughout the county.

McGill recognized an opportunity and promised that a region-wide studio tour would be included in the 2016 Nickel Plate Arts season. Thus, we are happy to announce our first-ever Nickel Plate Region Studio Tour on Saturday, July 23, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

The tour will take you to more than a dozen studios and shops, including some rural locations rarely included in other arts events. This is your chance to explore our region like never before, encounter artists in their natural environments, and shop for one-of-a-kind, handmade works of art.

You can participate two ways:

1. DIY Driving Tour: We will upload a map on our website with a suggested route to hit all of the spots! You can visit any and all of the locations between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. (unless otherwise indicated). Bring some folding money to snap up art from your favorite studio and get ready for a great arts adventure.

2. VIP Trolley Tour: For \$20 (special member pricing will be available), hop on the trolley with us for a guided, round-trip tour of each participating studio. A limited number of tickets are available. Plans are still in development, but odds are good that a local brewery or two may be included along the way — with us doing the driving, you can enjoy yourself to the fullest!

For more info, visit the Calendar and click "July 23" at NickelPlateArts.org.



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